



Thirteen dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Sister Mercy, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Temitope. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Meet **Chisa**, 1 of 125 children cared for  
by TEMITOPE COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATION (CBO)

Six-year-old Chisa's\* life is a testament to the Care Workers. Before she was even born, Chisa's father abandoned his family, and Chisa and her mother were left on their own. Chisa's mother did what she could to provide, but it was never enough, and she soon accepted an offer to remarry, leaving Chisa with her grandmother.

Care Worker Mercy met Chisa as a toddler and has walked through these deep challenges with her. For the past four years, Mercy and the other Care Workers have embraced Chisa, giving her the parental love she craves. They play with her, visit her in her home, teach her about God, and pray with her. Chisa's needs are supported in practical ways, too, such as receiving a daily meal and access to health care. In Mercy's words, "We are making sure she knows she is loved and that we won't abandon her".

## Community Update

Temitope CBO is truly a beacon of hope in the impoverished slum community of Ilaje. The living conditions are vulnerable for everyone, Care Workers and children alike. Children are often naked and barefoot, increasing their risk of sickness and injury, as the community is built on a rubbish-filled lagoon and is flooded each time it rains. The constant flooding brings its own set of challenges as families are forced to leave their homes to find cover. The Care Point and the Hands at Work local office are continually considering how to best address these great needs. Despite the heaviness of these challenges, the Care Workers are growing in their relationships with each other, with God, and even with local churches since a recent church mobilisation. The Care Point is being transformed into a Life Centre through these Care Workers, who constantly advocate for and pour out love to the children they serve.



## Activities and Projects

God has been at work in this community this year! A Maranatha Revival (pictured left) was held in April, and despite it being the season where everyone is scattered, trying to find work, every Care Worker showed up and many gave their life to Christ. They found forgiveness, reconciliation and unity amongst themselves and were able to deeply share and pray together. The Care Point continues to operate on the property of a supportive local church, which has been a blessing since the beginning of Temitope CBO. Many practical needs have been attended to this year. Hygiene items, school uniforms and supplies, mats, nets, and deworming pills have all been distributed amongst the children. The roof of the Care Point's shelter was renovated to prevent any more flooding.

